

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

RECEIVED

AUG 27 1996

Federal Communications Commission
Office of Secretary

**GUAM/CNMI
WORKING GROUP**

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

VIA HAND DELIVERY

August 27, 1996

Mr. William F. Caton
Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, N.W. , Room 222
Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: **Ex Parte Meeting**
CC Dockets 96-61 and 96-45 ✓

Dear Mr. Caton:

On August 26, 1996 the Guam/CNMI Working Group met to discuss the implementation of Section 254 of the Telecommunications Act of 1996 as it applies to Guam and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI). Present at the meeting was Pamela Szymczak of the FCC. The meeting participants are listed in the attached Appendix A.

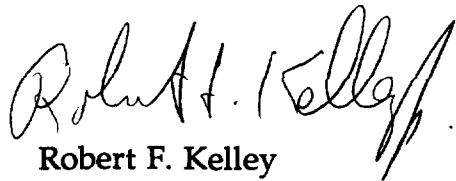
The Guam/CNMI Working Group adopted substantive resolutions. These resolutions are included as Appendix B. A copy of the minutes of the Guam/CNMI Working Group will be filed in this docket as soon as they are finalized and available.

Questions regarding the foregoing should be directed either to local counsel for the CNMI, Thomas K. Crowe, Esq., at 202/973-2890, or Robert F. Kelley, Advisor to the Governor of Guam, 202/624-3670.

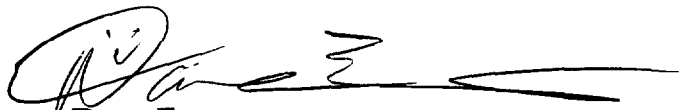
Mr. William F. Caton
August 27, 1996
Page 2

In accordance with the Commission's rule, an original and one copy of this notice are being submitted to the Secretary of the FCC.

Respectfully submitted,



Robert F. Kelley
Advisor to the
Governor, Office of the Governor
of Guam



Dave Ecret
Special Assistant to the
for Telecommunications
and Utilities, Office of the Governor,
Commonwealth of the Northern
Mariana Islands

cc: All Commissioners
Members, Universal Service Board
Regina Keeney, FCC
Pamela Szymczak, FCC
Patrick Donovan, FCC
Sherille Ismail, FCC
Working Group Participants

Enclosures

RESOLUTIONS OF THE GUAM/CNMI
WORKING GROUP

WHEREAS:

The Territory of Guam ("Guam") and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands ("CNMI") are rural, insular and high cost areas under Section 254(b) of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended ("the Act"). Therefore, consumers on Guam and the CNMI should have access to telecommunications and information services reasonably comparable to those services provided in urban areas in the continental United States at rates that are just, reasonable and affordable and reasonably comparable to those charged for similar services in urban areas.

WHEREAS:

The domestic carriers serving Guam and the CNMI currently rely on high-cost international satellite and cable facilities and may require universal service support at an appropriate level to address such high-cost to ensure that the goals of the Act are fulfilled.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS RESOLVED THAT:

Should the Commission adopt nationwide support mechanisms for the provision of domestic interexchange services and such other services identified by the Commission as entitled to universal service support to rural, insular and high cost areas, those mechanisms should be extended to the provision of domestic interexchange and such other services to Guam and the CNMI.

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED THAT:


These Resolutions do not preclude any Working Group member from proposing or opposing specific universal service support mechanisms for Guam and/or the CNMI.

FINALLY, IT IS RESOLVED THAT:


The Working Group may be reconvened upon the request of any member.

ADOPTED:

**THIS TWENTY SEVENTH DAY OF AUGUST NINETEEN HUNDRED AND
NINETY SIX, WASHINGTON, D.C.**



ROBERT F. KELLEY
ADVISOR TO THE GOVERNOR,
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR OF GUAM



DAVE ECRET
SPECIAL ASSISTANT FOR
TELECOMMUNICATIONS
AND UTILITIES, OFFICE OF
THE GOVERNOR,
COMMONWEALTH OF THE
NORTHERN MARIANA
ISLANDS

APPENDIX A
List of Participants at Guam/CNMI Working Group Meeting
August 26, 1996

Robert J. Maloney
Chairman & CEO
PCI Communications Inc.

Nora Hitoris
Member, Board of Directors
Guam Telephone Authority

Larry Sampson
NECA

Danny Santos
Sprint Guam

Evie Wolfson
MCI

Randall P. Slocum
MCI

Phuong N. Pham
Counsel for IT&E Overseas Inc.

Margaret L. Tobey
Counsel for IT&E Overseas Inc.

Carl O. Thorsen
Coopers & Lybrand

Veronica M. Ahern
Counsel to Guam Telephone Authority

Gordon Maxson
GTE/MTC

H.M. Boertzel
Guam PUC

Thomas K. Crowe
Counsel for CNMI Governor

Dave Ecret
CNMI Governor's Office

Robert F. Kelley
Guam Governor's Office

Jim Maden
PUC

Tedson Meyers
Coudert Brothers/Guam Counsel

Gonzalo de Dios
Coudert Brothers/Guam Counsel

Noelle Beerman
AT&T

Eric Fishman
PCI

Pamela Szymczak
FCC

Frank Torres
Guam Governor's Office